



Environmental Protection Agency

1701 S. First Street Maywood, IL. 60153

312/345-9780

Refer to: 09712503 - Lake County - North Chicago/B.F.I.

January 7, 1985

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



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Lake County Forest Preserve District
2000 North Milwaukee Ave.
Libertyville, Illinois 60048

Attn: Donald Strenger

Dear Mr. Strenger:

This letter is in response to your December 28, 1984 letter concerning groundwater quality conditions near the North Chicago Landfill site.

Your concern for the groundwater quality from the private residential (Dougherty) well in the Greenbelt Forest Preserve is understood; however, the Agency's records of analyses from water samples obtained from the landfill monitoring wells do not indicate any groundwater problems in the shallow water bearing zone that they are monitoring. The Lake County Health Department has been monitoring the condition of the surface water in the immediate area of the landfill and have concluded that the quality is degrading primarily due to leachate seeps emanating from the slopes of the fill. The same degradation has not been observed in the shallow monitoring wells. A thick clay cover and a hearty growth of vegetation should be emplaced over the landfill to reduce water infiltration and eliminate the occurrence of leachate seeps in the future. Lake County Health Department officials have informed B.F.I. of the action that is necessary to eliminate the problem.

Information provided to the Agency indicates that the Dougherty private well is approximately 200 feet in depth and is drawing water from the Silurian dolomite aquifer. Several thick layers of dense blue/gray clay exist between the base of the landfill and the dolomite aquifer. These layers act as barriers that essentially prevent the shallow groundwater from migrating downward. In the event that contamination be detected in the shallow groundwater, it is believed that these clay layers would prevent the contaminants from entering the dolomite aquifer.

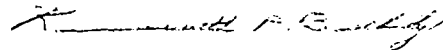
The Agency intends to sample the shallow monitoring wells at the landfill within the next two months. In addition, Lake County Health Department officials intend to continue their monitoring of the Dougherty well, surface waters, leachate seeps and the installation of a thick clay cover over the fill.

January 7, 1985

The Agency will contact the Forest Preserve District should any monitoring results indicate future problems.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Craig Liska of my staff at the above number.

Sincerely,



Kenneth P. Bechely, Northern Region Manager
Field Operations Section
Division of Land Pollution Control

cc: Division File
Northern Region ✓
Ken Bardo, Lake County Health Dept.
CJL

CJL:KPB:1p